

Appl. No. : 09/659,866
Filed : September 12, 2000

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Presented) A computerized system for managing airborne transportation of a patient, comprising:
 - a first module comprising instructions for dispatching an aircraft carrying an airborne emergency transport crew to a patient site;
 - a second module comprising instructions for generating a calculated flight path to the patient site; and
 - a third module comprising instructions for tracking the actual flight path of the aircraft and determining whether the actual flight path varies from the calculated flight path.
3. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 2, wherein the aircraft is a helicopter.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 2, wherein the patient site is an accident site.
5. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 2, wherein the patient site is a hospital.
6. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 5, wherein the first module comprises instructions for determining whether transportation of the patient from the patient site to another hospital is in compliance with interfacility transportation guidelines.
7. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 6, wherein the guidelines are the Consolidated Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA).
8. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 2, wherein the first module comprises instructions for storing crew work schedules for the emergency transport crew.
9. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 2, wherein the third module comprises instructions for tracking the flight coordinates of the aircraft.
10. (Previously Presented) A system for managing airborne transportation of a patient, comprising:
 - means for dispatching an aircraft carrying an airborne emergency transport crew to a patient site;
 - means for generating a calculated flight path to the patient site; and

means for tracking the actual flight path of the aircraft and determining whether the actual flight path varies from the calculated flight path.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 10, wherein the dispatching means comprise means for determining whether transportation of the patient from the patient site to another hospital is in compliance with interfacility transportation guidelines.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 11, wherein the guidelines are the Consolidated Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA).

13. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 10, wherein the dispatching means comprises means for storing crew work schedules for the emergency transport crew.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 10, wherein the tracking means comprises means for tracking the flight coordinates of the aircraft.

15. (Previously Presented) A method of managing airborne transportation of a patient, comprising:

dispatching an aircraft carrying an airborne emergency transport crew to a patient site;

generating a calculated flight path to the patient site;

tracking the actual flight path of the aircraft; and

determining whether the actual flight path varies from the calculated flight path.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein dispatching an aircraft comprises determining whether transportation of the patient from the patient site to another hospital is in compliance with interfacility transportation guidelines.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the guidelines are the Consolidated Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) or the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA).

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15, additionally comprising storing crew work schedules for the emergency transport crew.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein tracking the flight path comprises tracking the flight coordinates of the aircraft.

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20. (New) The system of Claim 2, wherein the determining whether the actual flight path varies from the calculated flight path includes identifying a variation from the calculated flight path.

21. (New) The system of Claim 20, wherein the third module additionally comprises instructions for making information regarding the variation available to at least a fourth module.

22. (New) The system of Claim 21, wherein the information regarding the variation comprises a reason for the variation.

23. (New) The system of Claim 21, wherein the fourth module comprises instructions for calculating a bill at least in part based on the information regarding the variation.

24. (New) The method of Claim 15, additionally comprising storing a reason for a variation between the actual flight path and the calculated flight path.

25. (New) The method of Claim 24, additionally comprising calculating a bill at least in part based on the variation.

26. (New) The method of Claim 2, wherein the instructions for tracking comprise instructions for automatically tracking, and wherein the actual flight path of the aircraft is recorded.